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**Amendments to the Claims:**

1.      (Cancelled)


2.      (Cancelled)


3.      (Currently Amended)  The device of claim [[10]]11, wherein
the at least one of the touch sensors is further arranged to determine a parameter of a
respective one of the touched zones, said key allocation means being arranged to
allocate the reference keys having a size and/or form on said touch-sensitive member
5     depending on said parameter of the respective detected zone.


4.      (Currently Amended)  The device of claim [[10]]11, wherein
said key allocation means is arranged to allocate said other keys having a size  and
orientation on said touch-sensitive member depending on  relative locations of the
detected touched sensitive zones.


5.      (Currently Amended)  The device of claim [[10]]11, wherein
said key allocation means is arranged to allocate four or eight reference keys upon
detecting four fingers of the user's left hand and/or four fingers of the user's right
hand touching the touch-sensitive member.


6.      (Previously Presented)  The device of claim 10, wherein said
virtual keyboard has a QWERTY-type layout.


7.      (Cancelled)


8.      (Cancelled)


9.      (Cancelled)

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10.    (Currently Amended)    A data processing device enabling a user to input characters, the device comprising:

a touch-sensitive member arranged to function as a virtual keyboard, said member including touch sensors for detecting a plurality of touched zones on said member, the touch sensors sensing a force of at least one finger on the touch-sensitive member;

a stroke recognition means which recognizes a key stroke by analyzing a relative position of a zone touched by a finger causing a higher force on the touch-sensitive member relative to positions of zones concurrently touched by other fingers with a lower force, such that the key stroke is determined by the relative position of the higher forced-force touched zone relative to the lower force concurrently touched zones rather than by location on the touch-sensitive member.

11.    (Currently Amended) A data processing device for enabling a user to input characters, the device comprising:

a touch-sensitive member arranged to function as a virtual keyboard, said member including sensors for detecting touched zones on said member and for sensing a force of at least one finger on the touch-sensitive member, the sensors being configured to identify a finger causing a force on the touch-sensitive member zone that is higher than a force from the other fingers when more than one finger touches said member;

a key allocation means for allocating at least two reference keys of the virtual keyboard to respective zones on said member in response to said detection of touched zones; and

a key stroke recognition means  configured to recognize a key stroke by analyzing a relative position of the zone touched with the-a higher force with respect to a position of at least one other zone concurrently touched with a lower force.

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12.      (Previously Presented)  The device of claim 11, wherein said at least one zone touched with the lower force corresponds to at least one of said reference keys.

13.      (Previously Presented)   The device of claim 11, further comprising:

a key correction means for correcting a location of at least one of the reference keys by repeatedly allocating at least one of the reference keys.

14.      (Previously Presented)  The device of claim 13, wherein said key correction means functions upon detecting a change of position of at least one of said other fingers.

15.      (Previously Presented)  The device of claim 11, wherein said touch-sensitive member further comprises:

a display means arranged to display a representation of at least one reference key and/or other key of the virtual keyboard.

16.      (Cancelled)

17.      (Cancelled)

18.      (Currently Amended)  A method  enabling a user to input characters, the method comprising:

a step of detecting touched zones on a touch-sensitive member configured to function as a virtual keyboard, and

5          a step of allocating at least two reference keys of the virtual keyboard to respective zones on said member in response to said detection of touched zones, and,

a step of sensing a force of at least one finger on <u>a touched zone of</u> the touch-sensitive member,~~and~~

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10          a step of identifying a finger causing a force on the <u>touched zone of the</u> touch-sensitive member higher than <u>a force caused by</u> other fingers <u>on the touched zone</u> when more than one finger touches said member, and

          a step of recognizing a key stroke by analyzing a relative position of the zone touched with the higher force with respect to a position of at least one other

15     zone concurrently touched with a lower force.


          19.     (Currently Amended)   A computer-readable medium with instructions that are executed on a computer, to perform the method as defined in claim [[10]] <u>18</u>.